

achieve that. H. Con. Res. 51 is a means to that end, and again, those who are committing these horrific crimes need to know that they face the certitude of punishment.

HONORING HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 2, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, this week, we observe Holocaust Remembrance Day—Yom HaShoah or the Day of Destruction—to remember those lost in the tragic genocide during World War II. I join with all Americans, as well as people around the world, to honor the tens of millions of lives that were lost. While this day is primarily an occasion to remember those who were lost, it also serves as a warning that we cannot let these atrocious acts of violence happen again.

On Yom HaShoah in Israel sirens ring out, and no matter what they are doing, people stop and reflect for two minutes. We too pause and remember those who perished as well as recommit ourselves to never again turn a blind eye to the precursors that led to this mass genocide. The Nuremberg Laws passed in 1935 capitalized on anti-Semitism's already widespread growth. These restrictions were followed by the destruction of Jewish communities, the construction of death camps, families torn apart, and lives lost.

As we reflect on the 6 million Jews lost 70 years ago, we must also remember the victims from other senseless genocides throughout history. From working towards the recognition of the Armenian genocide to today's atrocities in Sudan and the Central African Republic, we must be committed to saying "never again." The violation of basic human rights cannot be ignored and we must come together to stand up for those who do not have the voice to stand up for themselves.

I ask all Members to join me in remembering those lost in the genocide and pledge that this senseless violence will never be forgotten or repeated.

NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 2, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Representative GUS BILIRAKIS, my co-chair of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus, and our caucus members Representatives MADELINE BORDALLO, G.K. BUTTERFIELD, TONY CÁRDENAS, DONNA CHRISTENSEN, BLAKE FARENTHOLD, LOIS FRANKEL, TULSI GABBARD, ALAN GRAYSON, JANICE HAHN, COLLEEN HANABUSA, JOE HECK, RUBÉN HINOJOSA, MICHAEL HONDA, JARED HUFFMAN, WILLIAM KEATING, ANN KIRKPATRICK, BILLY LONG, CYNTHIA LUMMIS, KRISTI NOEM, STEVE PEARCE, PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, SCOTT PETERS, BILL POSEY, DAVE REICHERT, BOBBY RUSH, GREGORIO SABLAN, LORETTA SANCHEZ, STEVE STIVERS, PAT TIBERI, DINA TITUS, JUAN

VARGAS, and FEDERICA WILSON, we offer our support in celebrating this year's National Travel and Tourism Week.

The week of May 3 through 11, 2014 is designated as National Travel and Tourism Week in the United States. This commemorative week reminds us that travel is a major driver of U.S. economic growth and prosperity as well as an important business tool that promotes efficiency and productivity.

America's travel industry accounted for \$2.1 billion in economic output in 2013, supported nearly 15 million U.S. jobs and generated nearly \$134 billion in local, state and federal tax revenue. Travel and tourism account for 2.7 percent of U.S. GDP and travel is America's No. 1 U.S. industry export.

Travel is a pillar of economic growth. One out of every nine jobs in America depends on travel and tourism. Travel is among the top 10 industries in 49 states, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia in terms of employment. Travel is currently creating jobs at a 17 percent faster rate than other economic sectors. 84 percent of companies in the travel industry are classified as small businesses.

When U.S. travelers spend money in other countries, their purchases are counted as imports. When international travelers visit the United States, the goods and services they purchase here are counted as exports. U.S. travel exports totaled \$181 billion in 2013, generating a positive balance of trade of more than \$57 billion.

Travel, in the context of business meetings, events and incentive travel, constitutes a core business function that helps companies strengthen business performance, educate employees and customers and reward business accomplishments. Business travel yields a return on investment of \$9.50 in increased revenue for every dollar spent.

The majority of all trips taken to and within the United States involve leisure travel, which benefits every state and territory in the country, and was valued at \$621.4 billion in 2013, and generated \$91.9 billion in tax revenue. Leisure travel can be educational, increase historical and cultural awareness of our country and the world, stimulate creativity and productivity, and enhance longevity by allowing us to recharge our batteries and improve our health and wellness.

We strongly support National Travel and Tourism Week as an opportunity to express to the Nation the importance of travel in creating economic growth and opportunity, and enhancing the quality of life in the United States.

A TRIBUTE TO ANTOINETTE BEAUMONT TOMASEK

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 2, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Antoinette "Toni" Beaumont Tomasek, an extraordinary and talented Foreign Service officer who passed away on June 29, 2013, at age 41 due to complications from a car accident in Haiti.

Born in Manhattan Beach, California, Toni served in the Peace Corps in Paraguay before embarking on a career that took her all over the world working on international public

health. Prior to her work in Haiti, Toni served as a USAID Development Leadership Initiative Officer in Indonesia, establishing what USAID has called a "groundbreaking program" that works with local organizations to prevent and treat tuberculosis.

At the time of her death, Toni served as a health services team leader at the USAID mission in Port-au-Prince and was making a difference every day in lives of the Haitian people. She died following serious injuries suffered in a car accident as she returned to the American Embassy from a visit to a health clinic.

Toni was a loving wife, mother, daughter, and sister. She is survived by her husband, Adam, and their two young children, Alexandre and Amelie; her parents, Marilyn and William; and her brother and sister, Billy and Jeannie.

On Friday, May 2, Toni is being honored at the annual American Foreign Service Association's Memorial Ceremony at the U.S. State Department for her exceptional service to our nation. I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to Toni Tomasek and extending our deepest condolences to her family for their terrible loss. Our nation and the entire world owe a great debt to Toni for her tremendous commitment to making the world a better place and for her indefatigable work to improve the lives of the least among us.

THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: FROM "PRE-GENOCIDE" TO GENOCIDE?

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 2, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, a hearing that I held earlier this week addressed an extremely critical topic: the worsening crisis in the Central African Republic, where untold lives hang in the balance and the window for action is narrowing each day.

It was not the first hearing we have held on the CAR. It follows up a hearing that we held last November when the situation already appeared dire, as well as numerous meetings and interventions with bishops, humanitarian NGOs, diplomats, and interested parties. At our November hearing, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Robert Jackson stated that the CAR was in a "pre-genocide" stage.

Since the time Mr. Jackson last spoke to us, the situation appears to have gotten demonstrably worse. We will hear again today from Mr. Jackson, who will update us not only on the situation on the ground, but also on a change of policy that I believe reflects a course of action that we had recommended the administration undertake last November, namely, that United Nations peacekeepers be introduced into the country as the existing African Union force has been serving too many vested interests.

Hopefully, such an intervention will not come too late, because as we are witnessing a country in rapid disintegration, apparently descending from a "pre-genocide" stage to one characterized by a word almost too painful to articulate: genocide.

In a country that for decades had been characterized by brutal misrule and brazen